



# West Texas RSVP

**connecting - volunteering - impacting**

April 2017 - May 2017

Sponsored by: West Texas Rehabilitation Center  
A Corporation for National and Community Service Program  
National Senior Corps Program

## Spring Has Sprung

We have all probably heard or read the quote, “Spring breathes new life into the world around us.” Yes there is new life...green shoots are emerging due to the warm weather we experienced in February and March. Seeds are sprouting, flowers blooming and the sun is warming us. We have also had to “spring” ahead recently with the change to daylight savings time. Do all of these changes and the warmer weather make you restless? Are you ready to take on a new challenge, but not sure what that might be? Perhaps the motivation to try something new is waiting to emerge, just like the new leaves on trees or shoots from the ground. Maybe some of the volunteer opportunities in this newsletter will offer you the new challenge(s) you are looking for.

*“Renewal requires opening yourself up to new ways of thinking and feeling”*

*- Deborah Day*

### Check out:

- Spring Has Sprung
- Abilene Opportunities
- Happy Mothers Day
- San Angelo Opportunities
- Volunteer Thanks
- San Angelo Spotlight
- Abilene Spotlight
- Birthdays
- New Volunteers
- Travel
- National Volunteer Week

Like 'West Texas RSVP' on Facebook, follow us on Twitter @westtexasrsvp and visit the website at [www.westtexasrsvp.org](http://www.westtexasrsvp.org)!



**“Spring cleaning isn't just about sorting through things, and getting rid of clutter. It's about taking stock of who you are, and how others see you. It's a chance to redefine yourself, to change expectations, and to remember that it's *never* too late to recapture who you were, or to aim for who you want to be.”**

# Volunteer Opportunities

**Abilene** - For more information on these and other volunteer opportunities contact Max Ann at 325-793-3520 or mabowlin@wtrc.com

## Meals on Wheels Plus-

- As Meals on Wheels continues to expand their much needed services to outlying communities, the work load in their kitchen has also grown. In addition to the normal work of meal preparation and filling meal trays for the Abilene area, they are also preparing and packing meals to be delivered in Winters, Ballinger and Rowena. They are looking for a few special volunteers who are willing to volunteer on a regular basis (scheduled) to help the kitchen staff with specific tasks for a couple of hours. This is an ideal opportunity for someone who is not able to deliver a route, but still would like to volunteer for Meals on Wheels.
- Want to make a difference in your community? Want to make a difference in the lives of your neighbors? Volunteer your lunch time delivering meals to the elderly and other eligible adults in your area. Deliver one day a week, or more. Delivery takes about an hour and training is provided.

*January 2017 - Volunteers of the month for Meals on Wheels Plus:*

*Marcia & Larry Walrath*

**Frontier Texas** - Love to learn more about Texas History?...Frontier Texas is needing volunteers to be trained as docents to guide tour groups through the museum. No experience necessary!

## Sears Mesa Springs is in need of volunteers for the following:

Read to Residents as a group or one on one.

Call bingo, on Friday or Saturday at either 10:00 am or 3:00 pm.

Play table games like Bridge, dominoes, 42, Skip-Bo and other games.

Pet visits, of course dog must be certified pet therapy dog.

Help host parties - Help decorate for the holidays.

## **WTRC Family Support Services - Abilene**

Monthly Support Group Meeting.

For parents/grandparents of children with a special health care need

Held on 3rd Tuesdays of every month, 12:00 to 1:00 pm - lunch provided

WTRC Board Room - 4601 Hartford

FMI you can call 325-793-3500

Happy  
Mothers  
Day

**Mother** *noun.* A person with the ability to detect a lie, hear the smallest noises, and see out the back of their head.



Good moms let you lick the beaters...  
Great moms turn them off first.

# Volunteer Opportunities

**San Angelo** - For more information on these and other volunteer opportunities contact Teresa at 325-223-6387 or [tcovey@wtrc.com](mailto:tcovey@wtrc.com)

**Meals for the Elderly** - YOUR TIME IS REQUESTED...Regular, substitute and emergency drivers needed!! Still pondering the thought of becoming involved with a program that benefits those confined to their home or physically unable to cook a meal? This is the volunteer opportunity to connect with if you want to make a BIG impact on our community. YOUR assistance in delivering meals is PRICELESS...Reach out and touch someone in need...today!

**West Texas RSVP - Faith in Action (FIA)** - West Texas RSVP welcomes all volunteers interested in transporting frail elderly citizens to their medical appointments. This is a great way to give back to the community in a way that does not conflict with your schedule. The RSVP Staff know how valuable your time is; therefore, "YOU" decide which transportation needs you can volunteer for..."YOU" decide. So if you're looking for a way to fill a big need within our community, you love meeting new people, and your heart is full of compassion for others, *your perfect volunteer opportunity* is waiting for you through Faith in Action. Come join our volunteer drivers and see what it means to give of your time...RSVP FIA drivers are the "special ingredient" that makes FIA so successful!

**Disaster Planning** - Looking for a way to give back to the community when disaster hits? Here's your opportunity. The City of San Angelo Office of Emergency Management (COSA/OEM) will be hosting a free training event titled Management of Spontaneous Volunteers scheduled for July 12. Through this training you will learn how to set up a Volunteer Reception Center, and how to handle those spontaneous volunteers who tend to show up during a disaster. Registration is required and training will be conducted at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at 8485 Hangar Rd, near the airport. To enhance and evaluate this training the EOC will conduct an "exercise" on July 20th from 2:00pm-4:30pm. This "exercise" will help prepare citizens for a real disaster, giving you a hands-on approach to managing spontaneous volunteers after disaster hits a community. Teresa Covey can assist with registration in the RSVP office, as you must register online. Other online classes are required which will give you a working knowledge of the Incident Command System (ICS) and National Incident Management Systems (NIMS). A detailed description of this course can be found online at this website: <https://www.preparingtexas.org/ViewCourse.aspx?courseid=4aa9d3e7-a57d-459d-b79b-8f39e91fd483>. In addition, there is a need for "75" citizens to act or portray the roles of spontaneous volunteers for this exercise. If you are interested in this training, or playing the role of a disaster volunteer, please contact Teresa Covey at the San Angelo RSVP office.

## **WTRC Family Support Services - San Angelo**

Monthly Support Group Meeting.

For parents/grandparents of children with a special health care need

Held on 3rd Thursdays of every month, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

WTRC Conference Center - 1926 University

Child care is provided. FMI you can call 223-6473.

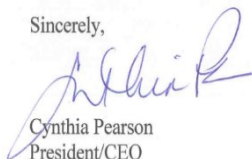
# "Thank you" to RSVP Volunteers

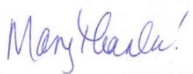
## Abilene

Please express gratitude to the RSVP volunteer that recently made cot sheets for Day Nursery of Abilene. They are very kind to share their time and talents for the benefit of the children in the Day Nursery of Abilene child care program and their efforts will make naptime warm and comfy for children each day! Thank you for delivering the cot sheets to us.

The children, staff and I really appreciate all you and the RSVP volunteers do for the Day Nursery of Abilene child care program. Thank you again!

Sincerely,

  
Cynthia Pearson  
President/CEO

  
Mary Haskins



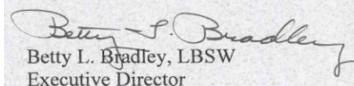
January 26, 2017

Dear West Texas RSVP,

Thank you for sending RSVP volunteers to stuff and label envelopes for our menu mail out. This is such a large project, 1200 clients, knowing we can call on RSVP volunteers to complete it in one day is a huge relief.

Most of our clients rely on the meal we deliver, as their main, nutritional meal of the day. This is the reason we offer our clients a menu choice, in the hopes they will enjoy one of the choices and not cancel their meal.

Warmly yours,

  
Betty L. Bradley, LBSW  
Executive Director



## San Angelo

"I enjoyed spending time and bonding with the ladies, they are all unique and special in their own ways. Please thank them for me, they were a pleasure to work with. They helped make our banquet look beautiful."

Jan Sanchez, Membership Asst.  
San Angelo Chamber of Commerce

"Thank you for helping us today...Where would we be without our amazing volunteers!! Thank you...These ladies were so detailed and dedicated.

Laura Lewis, VP of Member Relations  
San Angelo Chamber of Commerce

"...WONDERFUL, encouraging ladies - I enjoyed visiting with them. Thanks for all you do—the volunteers provide a great service."

"Awesome RSVP volunteers at House of Faith today—we enjoyed them so much :)...got our newsletters ready to go!"

Darlene Bratton  
House of Faith



## San Angelo SPOTLIGHT



"The men and women from RSVP who serve with us are indispensable to our ministry. They are on the front lines in helping our neighbors get the food, clothing and other necessities they need. And they are a joy to serve with. We could not serve as we do without West Texas RSVP." -Bryan Jarvis-



**Bryan Jarvis, Director**

**Janet Branham  
Volunteer Coord./Adm. Asst.**

In 2016  
Rust Street Ministries  
assisted the community with

**27,177**  
people served

**324,169**  
pounds of food given

**78,259**  
articles of clothing

**1,567**  
pieces of furniture

**625**  
appliances

### **Rust Street Ministries needs YOU!**

Rust Street Ministries' effective outreach to serve our community is only possible through the hundreds of enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers. Whether it is donating time by volunteering a day or a few hours each week, Rust Street Ministries has a volunteer opportunity that will match your desire to give back to our community...loading docks, donation sorting, pantry, office, tagging clothes, sorting linens, quilting, to include their Recycle-a-Bike program.

Rust Street Ministries has lots of ways for you to be involved, and help your neighbors...no one is too young or too old to get involved...

Call the RSVP office to connect with this volunteer opportunity.

## Abilene SPOTLIGHT - Hospice of the Big Country

Hospice of the Big Country joined West Texas Rehabilitation Center in 2000 and it was a perfect union. The Rehab is known for providing the best outpatient therapy care to the Big Country residents for over 50 years. Hospice of the Big Country serves Abilene and the 11 surrounding counties. The Big Country Hospice team members are dedicated professionals and trained volunteers who specialize in meeting the needs of terminally ill patients and their families. They provide hospice care regardless of your ability to pay, your diagnosis, or your age. Medical Directors, Dr. George Dawson, Dr. Sandra Hazelip, and Dr. Gary Holland have ALWAYS and continue to make house calls.

Hospice is more of a philosophy of care than a place. Hospice focuses on caring, not curing and, in most cases, care is provided wherever the patient considers "home". If you are facing a life-limiting illness or injury and you would like your care to be focused on easing the physical, emotion, and spiritual pain, then it is time for Hospice. Hospice Care is a team-oriented approach and is tailored to the patient's needs and wishes. When a cure is no longer possible, hospice recognizes that a person's quality of life is the most important aspect.

**COMPASSION IN ACTION** - Compassion is the calling of our hospice volunteers. Whether you run an errand, make a phone call, offer a ride, bake cookies, or simply hold a hand to offer friendship and comfort, hospice volunteers make a difference.

### AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY

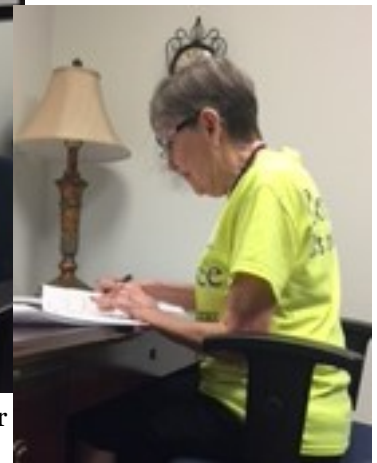
- Direct Patient Care
- Office/Clerical Duties
- Bereavement Support
- Family Support
- Pet Therapy
- Community Outreach
- Fundraising
- Memory Bear Project
- Special Events

### How to Get Involved

- Complete Application
- Attend Training Classes

### For more information:

Max Ann - 325-793-3520



Pictured is RSVP Volunteer Janet Taylor who is a very special hospice volunteer!

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## BUTTERFLY IN THE PARK MEMORIAL SERVICE

Saturday, May 20, at 11:00 a.m. Hospice of the Big Country will host their annual Butterfly In the Park Memorial Service. This event will be held at Festival Gardens at Nelson Park across from the Abilene Zoo.



A time of remembrance with music is planned and will end with each family releasing a beautiful, live butterfly in memory of a loved one. A barbeque picnic lunch will follow. This event is open to our HOBC families, as well as to the community. There is no charge. If you have questions or would like more information, please call the Hospice of the Big Country office at 325-793-5450.



01 Nancy Haddox	15 Jessie Magness	01 Linda Ashton	20 Pat Attebery
Juan Hernandez	Donnia Seely	Nonie Sparks	Robert Doolin
Leola Prince	Janelle Waddell	02 Jo Cook	21 Bernice Backer
02 Carolyn Utt	16 Loretta Medley	03 Ruth Jordan	22 Florence Boyd
03 Susie English	Joseph Sotir	05 Jenny Eubank	Arlen Lohse
Joe Lopez	17 Betty Burton	Donna King	23 Arlelle Brininstool
Jane Melton	Norvell Holveck	06 Frieda Ingram	23 Neeca Flippo
Katherine Osborne	Gary Whitaker	Tommie Self	Mildred King
Grace Smith	18 Jim Bartee	07 Tommy Alldredge	25 Ed Huston
Loretta Sughrue	Olivia Haliburton	Terence Brown	Diane Lambert
04 Peggy Hembree	Linda Rutledge	Clent Kniffen	Don Wilson
John Tyler	Jane Stracener	10 Shirley Fletcher	26 Doyle Lemond
05 Tommie Lindsey	19 Nancy White	Hector Flores	Phyllis Martinez
Rosalinda Sims	20 Raymond McCarthy	Elta Pierson	Ronnie Merriman
06 Wendy Green	21 Viola Jenkins	Marion Smith	Juanita Pruneda
07 Becky Knox	22 Henry E. Roberts	11 Betty Harbin	Diana Robertson
07 Marie Kretschmer	Guy Saunders	12 Rosetta Lozano	28 Janice Agee
08 Jetty Davis	Ginny Walls	14 Ernest Lambert	Denise Barnett
Frances Evans	23 Gene Cook	Melanie McMinn	29 Barbara Block
Leland Hamner	Arnold Michalewicz	Robert Worley	Jean Bundrant
09 Maria Perez	24 Donna Alexander	15 Molly Guevara	Andrew Lester
10 Karen Horner	25 Harry Dhans	16 Maudie Reeves	30 Carolyn Glass
Ermanell Penney	26 Judy Hight	Pat Slavens	31 Skip Doepp
Sheila Rose	27 Bonnie Hooker	17 Carol Rigby	John Muhleman
11 Sherry Goeble	Laura Jones	Emma Watkins	Sharyl Sotir
LuAnn Lupton	Paz Mapoy	18 Chene Dominguez	
12 Darline Bride	28 Elaine Kiser	19 Cindy Beck	
13 Carmen Timmons	Skip Rudolph		
14 Paula Dunn	Marshall Stewart		
JoAnne Fuson	29 Wanda Brothers		
Frauke Harrington	Darlyne Vietor		
Woody Hiebert	30 Al Bunt		
DeDe Schmitt	Debbie Hobbs		







## SILVER BLUEBONNET DAY

Hosted by

FRIENDS OF SAN ANGELO STATE PARK

May 3, 2017 9:00am - 1:00pm

Chaparral Pavilion - South Entrance

FREE for ALL SENIORS

ENJOY A MORNING IN THE PARK WITH

PARK TOURS + BIRDS AND FLOWERS VIEWING + INFORMATIVE DISPLAYS + MUSIC

FREE PICNIC LUNCH

RSVP

Call Linda 656-4322 or Deola 651-8976

Email: linda.ashton@gmail.com



“Life has taught us that love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking outward together in the same direction.” -Saint-Exupery

A heart is not judged by how much you love, but by how much you are loved by others. -Frank Morgan

*A warm  
welcome...  
to new  
RSVP Volunteers*

Donna Englehart  
Juanita Hardy  
Bill Hardy  
Darlene Harrell  
Shirley Hergert  
Jerry Jefferson  
Rosa Korpi  
Maxine Magee  
Elisa Padilla  
Ricky Puente  
Ruth Rios  
Tonya Taylor  
Gail Ullisney

### In Sympathy...



Pat Brown  
Harry Hall  
Mary Hankins  
Thomas Hughey

Irene Ross  
LaNelle Sherrod  
Suzanne Steinbach  
Robert Wallman

### Miscellaneous Notes

- ◆ Please be sure to notify the RSVP Office and/or volunteer station if you cannot show up for a scheduled volunteer opportunity.
- ◆ If you did not attend the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon in August in Abilene or September in San Angelo and have not picked up your new RSVP name tag, please stop by your RSVP office...your name tag is waiting for you. We also can make one for new volunteers who joined after the luncheon was held. When others see your name tag and ask what RSVP is about, this is your chance to be a recruiter for RSVP. Word of mouth goes a long way....
- ◆ Please be sure to call your RSVP office if you have a change of address. Returned newsletters means an increase in postage...which adds up.
- ◆ If you mail your timesheet to the RSVP office, please be sure to sign your name on the timesheet.



**Visit Bilbrey Tours on their website for more details:**

**<http://www.bilbreytours.com/2016/16tripsINDEX.html>**



Departing Abilene, Lubbock and San Angelo

**Exploring the Dakotas**

June 22 - 30, 2017

Departing Abilene

**South Pacific - Granbury Opera House**

Saturday, July 8, 2017

**Cape Cod and More!**

**Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island**

July 11 - 18, 2017

Departing Abilene & San Angelo

**Palo Duro Canyon**

July 20 - 21, 2017

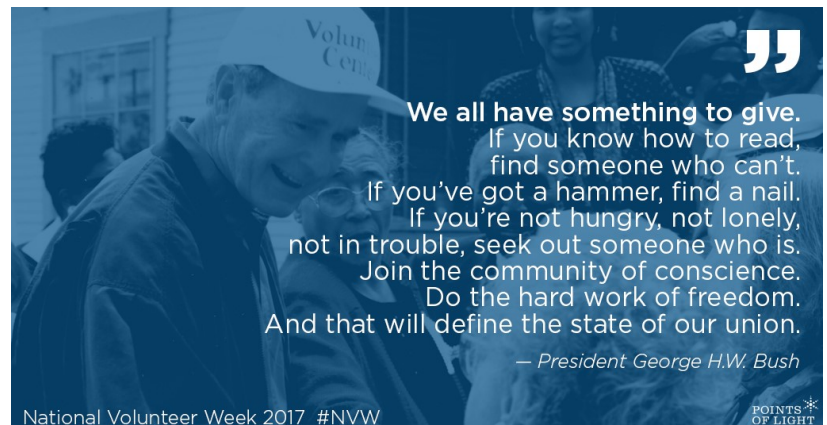
In San Angelo, call RSVP at (325) 223-6387 or email [tcovey@wtcr.com](mailto:tcovey@wtcr.com)

In Abilene, call RSVP at (325) 793-3520 or email [mabowlin@wtcr.com](mailto:mabowlin@wtcr.com)



***National Volunteer Week is our opportunity to recognize and thank RSVP volunteers who lend their time, talent, voice and support to causes they care about in our communities. Thank you for being a changemaker who has joined other volunteers across the Big Country and the Concho Valley to build stronger, more vibrant communities through service.***

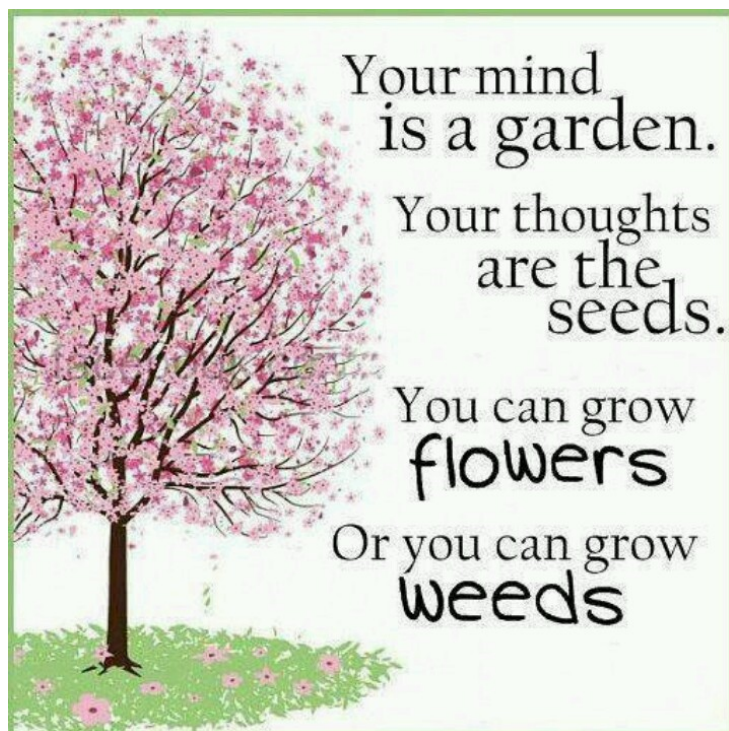
**Thank you RSVP volunteers!!!**



West Texas Rehab/RSVP  
618 South Chadbourne  
San Angelo, Texas 76903

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE  
SAN ANGELO, TX  
76903  
PERMIT NO. 97

**Return Service Requested**



## West Texas RSVP

618 South Chadbourne  
San Angelo, Texas 76903  
Fax: 325-655-6294

4601 Hartford  
Abilene, Texas 79605  
Fax: 325-793-5445

[www.westtexasrsvp.org](http://www.westtexasrsvp.org)

**Director** Dolores Schwertner  
San Angelo - 325-223-6388  
Abilene - 325-793-3522  
dschwertner@wtrc.com

**Volunteer Coordinator** Max Ann Bowlin  
325-793-3520  
Abilene mabowlin@wtrc.com

**Program Assistant** Teresa Covey  
San Angelo 325-223-6387  
tcovey@wtrc.com

**Administrative Coordinator** Carol Rigby-Hiebert  
San Angelo 325-223-6389  
crigby@wtrc.com